

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

/078 W

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O R 110821Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7050

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3474

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, VS

SUBJECT: KOREAN DIPLOMATS DEPART SAIGON

REF: BANGKOK 13158

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS MAY 8, MOFA ASSISTANT MINISTER SAID FIVE OF EIGHT DIPLOMATS IN SAIGON HAD BEEN RELEASED. ACCORDING TO MOFA, THEY RETURNED SAFELY TO SEOUL MAY 9 AFTER HAVING BEEN PERMITTED TO LEAVE SAIGON MAY 7 BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES. THE THREE DIPLOMATS WHO HAD BEEN IN JAIL IN SAIGON STILL HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED, AND THE ROKG DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEPARTURE OF THE FIVE DIPLOMATS IN ORDER NOT TO HARM THE DEPARTURE CHANCES OF THE REMAINING THREE.

2. ACCORDING TO MOFA, 59 KOREAN NATIONALS REMAIN IN SAIGON,
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INCLUDING THE THREE DIPLOMATS IN JAIL. EFFORTS TO SECURE THEIR

RELEASE ARE CONTINUING THROUGH THE RED CROSS AND THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT. MOFA OFFICIALS SAY THE ONLY REMAINING IMPEDIMENT TO
THE DEPARTURE OF THE 56 NON-GOVERNMENTAL KOREANS IS TAX
CLEARANCE AND SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE DEBTS. MOFA IS HOPEFUL
THAT REPORTS FROM SAIGON THAT BALANCE OF FOREIGNERS IN SAIGON
WILL BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE ON EITHER HO CHI MIN'S BIRTHDAY
(MAY 19) OR WHEN UNIFIED GOVT. ESTABLISHED IN JUNE WILL PROVE
TRUE.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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